

LACDMH LONG BEACH MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM RECEIVES CSAC AWARD

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On Wednesday, November 12, 2014, the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH) was recognized by Supervisor and Chairman Don Knabe and Chief Executive Officer William T Fujioka at the Board of Supervisors' regular meeting. LACDMH received a prestigious California State Association of Counties (CSAC) Challenge Award.

LACDMH's Care Clinic Innovation – Long Beach Mental Health was the only department in LA County to receive a Challenge Award this year, beating out more than 200 entries in its population categories. CSAC's yearly statewide program honors innovation in county government.

Using its existing resources, the award-winning Care Clinic has successfully and greatly improved access and service delivery by managing client flow while incorporating basic health care screenings into an outpatient mental health setting. The Long Beach Mental Health Center created an innovative, cost-effective program that delivers care initiated by the client, avoiding lengthy waiting periods usually associated with public service demands. The Care Clinic integrates health care screenings, substance use and mental health services into the client's treatment plan to create a one-stop delivery system for various health care issues (i.e., diabetes, obesity, etc.), while continuing traditional psychotropic medication support. This project established an impressive track record for cost-effective budget savings and has been replicated across five additional adult outpatient clinic venues.